

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

5 1. A data processing apparatus comprising:  
data analysis means for extracting data control  
information from data provided with the data control  
information to be used for restricting various  
processes;

data processing means for performing various  
processes for the data added with the data control  
information;

10 display means for displaying a process function of  
each of the various processes to be executed by said  
data processing means; and

control means for controlling said data processing  
means and said display means in accordance with the  
15 data control information extracted by said data  
analysis means,

wherein said control means inhibits to execute an  
inhibited process in accordance with the data control  
information extracted from the data and controls said  
20 display means to change a display style of the process  
function of each of the various processes to an  
inhibition display style.

2. A data processing apparatus according to claim  
25 1, wherein said control means controls said display  
means to display a notice that the data is provided  
with a process restriction.

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3. A data processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said control means controls said display means to display a disabled execution when the inhibited process is selected.

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4. A data processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said control means controls said display means to change a display color as the inhibition display style.

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5. A data processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said control means controls said display means to blink a display as the inhibition display style.

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6. A data processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the data control information includes copyright information or editing inhibition information based upon the copyright information.

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7. A data processing apparatus according to claim 6, wherein the editing inhibition information includes at least one of color conversion, sharpness, transparency, boundary process, inversion, overlap, rotation, mask, insertion to photo frame, and mixture.

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8. A data processing apparatus according to claim

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6, wherein the editing inhibition information is information for stepwise restricting process contents in accordance with an editing inhibition level of the information.

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9. A data processing apparatus according to claim 8, wherein said control means inhibits to execute an inhibited process in accordance with the editing inhibition level.

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10. A data processing apparatus according to any one of claims 1 to 9, wherein the data is image data.

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11. A data supplying apparatus comprising:  
storage means for storing and managing data and data control information;  
registration means for registering the data and the data control information in said storage means; and  
data control information providing means  
responsive to a data distribution request for  
extracting the data control information corresponding to the data and adding the data control information to the data,

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wherein in response to the data distribution request, the data and the corresponding data control information are distributed.

<sup>11</sup>  
~~16.~~ A data processing system comprising:

a data supplying apparatus for distributing data and corresponding data control information in response to a data distribution request; and

5 a data processing apparatus for restricting to executed an inhibited process in accordance with the data control information extracted from the data and controlling display means to determine a display style of a process function of each of various processes,

10 wherein:

said data supplying apparatus comprises: storage means for storing and managing the data and data control information; registration means for registering the data and the data control information in said  
15 storage means; and data control information providing means responsive to the data distribution request for extracting the data control information corresponding to the data and adding the data control information to the data; and

20 said data processing apparatus comprises: data analysis means for extracting the data control information from the data provided with the data control information to be used for restricting the various processes; data processing means for performing  
25 the various processes for the data added with the data control information; display means for displaying a process function of each of the various processes to be

executed by said data processing means; and control means for controlling said data processing means and said display means in accordance with the data control information extracted by said data analysis means,

5            wherein said control means inhibit to execute an inhibited process in accordance with the data control information extracted from the data and controls said display means to change a display style of the process function of each of the various processes to an  
10           inhibition display style.

11           <sup>12</sup>  
             ~~17~~. A data processing system according to claim  
16, wherein said control means controls said display means to display a notice that the data is provided  
15           with a process restriction.

11           <sup>13</sup>  
             ~~18~~. A data processing system according to claim  
16, wherein said control means controls said display means to display a disabled execution when the  
20           inhibited process is selected.

11           <sup>14</sup>  
             ~~19~~. A data processing system according to claim  
16, wherein said control means controls said display means to change a display color as the inhibition  
25           display style.

15           <sup>15</sup>  
             ~~20~~. A data processing system according to claim

<sup>11</sup>  
~~26~~, wherein said control means controls said display means to blink a display as the inhibition display style.

5                   <sup>16</sup>  
          <sup>11</sup> ~~21~~. A data processing system according to claim  
~~18~~, wherein the data control information includes  
copyright information or editing inhibition information  
based upon the copyright information.

10                   <sup>17</sup>  
          <sup>11</sup> ~~22~~. A data processing system according to claim  
~~18~~, wherein the data is image data.

<sup>18</sup>  
          <sup>11</sup> ~~23~~. A data processing system according to claim  
~~18~~, wherein the data control information includes  
15   copyright information and a editing inhibition code  
based on the copyright information.

<sup>19</sup>  
          <sup>16</sup> ~~24~~. A data processing system according to claim  
~~23~~, wherein the editing inhibition information includes  
20   at least one of color conversion, sharpness,  
transparency, boundary process, inversion, overlap,  
rotation, mask, insertion to photo frame, and mixture.

<sup>20</sup>  
25   <sup>18</sup> ~~25~~. A data processing system according to claim  
~~23~~, wherein the editing inhibition information is  
information for stepwise restricting process contents

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in accordance with an editing inhibition level of the information.

20 <sup>21</sup>  
25 ~~26~~. A data processing system according to claim  
5 ~~25~~, wherein said control means inhibits to execute an inhibited process in accordance with the editing inhibition level.

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10 27. ~~A computer readable storage medium storing a~~  
program for executing:

an extracting step of extracting data control information from data provided with the data control information to be used for restricting various processes; and

15 a display step of displaying a process function to be restricted in accordance with the data control information extracted by said extracting step.

20 28. A computer readable storage medium storing a program for executing:

a registration step of registering data and corresponding data control information;

a storage step of storing and managing the data registered at said registration step; and

25 a provision step of extracting the data control information from the data and adding the data control information to the data, in response to a data

12. A data supplying apparatus according to claim 11, wherein the data control information includes copyright information and a process inhibition code based on the copyright information.

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13. A data supplying apparatus according to claim 11, wherein the data is image data.

10 14. A data processing method comprising:  
an extracting step of extracting data control information from data provided with the data control information to be used for restricting various processes; and  
a display step of displaying a process function to  
15 be restricted in accordance with the data control information extracted by said extracting step.

20 15. A data supplying method comprising:  
a registration step of registering data and corresponding data control information;  
a storage step of storing and managing the data registered at said registration step; and  
a provision step of extracting the data control  
25 information from the data and adding the data control information to the data, in response to a data distribution request.



distribution request.

29. A computer readable storage medium according to claim 27 or 28, wherein the data is image data.

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30. A data supplying apparatus comprising:  
distributing means responsive to a data  
distribution request for distributing data and control  
information for restricting various processes to be  
10 performed for the data at a plurality of levels, to a  
distribution requesting side.

31. A data supplying apparatus according to claim  
30, further comprising storage means for storing the  
15 data and control information, wherein in response to  
the data distribution request, said distributing means  
acquires the data from said storage means, checks a  
presence/absence of the control information  
corresponding to the acquired data, distributes the  
20 acquired data provided with presence/absence  
information to the distribution requesting side, and in  
response to a control information request after the  
distribution, distributes the control information to  
the requesting side.

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32. A data supplying apparatus according to claim  
31, further comprising registration means for

registering the data and the control information in said storage means in one-to-one correspondence.

33. A data supplying apparatus according to claim  
5 30, further comprising comparing means for comparing registration information supplied from the requesting side with registration information previously stored.

34. A data supplying apparatus according to claim  
10 31, wherein the presence/absence information is a data management number.

35. A data supplying apparatus according to claim  
15 31, wherein the presence/absence information is a network address.

36. A data supplying apparatus according to claim  
20 30, wherein the control information to be distributed is determined in accordance with additional information supplied together with the distribution request from the requesting side.

37. A data supplying apparatus according to claim  
30, wherein the data is image data.

38. ~~A data processing apparatus comprising:  
data processing means for processing data: and~~

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~~control means for regulating a process to be  
executed for the data by said data processing means in  
accordance with control information which restricts to  
execute the process at a plurality of levels.~~

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39. A data processing apparatus according to  
claim 38, further comprising:

data requesting means for issuing a request for a  
distribution of the data to a data supplying apparatus;

10 extracting means for extracting presence  
information indicating a presence/absence of the  
control information added to the data distributed in  
response to the request; and

15 control information requesting means for  
requesting for the control information to the data  
supplying apparatus in accordance with the extracted  
presence information.

20 40. A data processing apparatus according to  
claim 39, further comprising display means for  
displaying the distributed data, presence information  
and control information.

25 41. A data processing apparatus according to  
claim 39, wherein said control information requesting  
means issuing the request as well as additional  
information on the data processing apparatus.

42. A data processing apparatus according to claim 38, further comprising transferring means for transferring registration information on the data processing apparatus to the data supplying apparatus.

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43. A data processing apparatus according to claim 39, wherein the presence information is a data management number.

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44. A data processing apparatus according to claim 39, wherein the presence information is a network address.

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45. A data processing apparatus according to claim 38, wherein the data is image data.

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46. A data processing system comprising:  
a data supplying apparatus comprising distributing means responsive to a data distribution request for distributing data and control information for restricting various processes to be performed for the data at a plurality of levels, to a distribution requesting side; and

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a data processing apparatus comprising: data requesting means for issuing a request for a distribution of the data to the data supplying apparatus; ~~data processing means for processing the~~

~~data; and control means for regulating the data~~  
processing to a level represented by the distributed  
control information.

5           47. A computer readable storage medium storing a  
program executing:

10           a distributing step of distributing, in response  
to a data distribution request, data and control  
information for restricting various processes to be  
performed for the data at a plurality of levels, to a  
~~distribution requesting side.~~

15           48. A computer readable storage medium according  
to claim 47, wherein said distributing step includes a  
step of acquiring the data from storage means for  
storing the data and the control information, in  
response to the data distribution request, a step of  
checking a presence/absence of the control information  
corresponding to the acquired data, a step of  
20           distributing the acquired data provided with  
presence/absence information to the distribution  
requesting side, and a step of, in response to a  
control information request after the distribution,  
distributing the control information to the requesting  
25           side.

49. A computer readable storage medium according

to claim 48, said program further executes a step of registering the ~~data~~ and the control information in said storage means in one-to-one correspondence.

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50. ~~A computer readable storage medium storing a~~  
program executing:

a step of processing data; and

10 a step of regulating a process to be executed for  
the data by said data processing step in accordance  
with control information which restricts to execute the  
~~process at a plurality of levels.~~

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51. A computer readable storage medium according  
to claim 50, wherein the program further comprises:

a step of issuing a request for a distribution of  
the data to a data supplying apparatus;

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a step of extracting presence information  
indicating a presence/absence of the control  
information added to the data distributed in response  
to the request; and

25

a step of requesting for the control information  
to the data supplying apparatus in accordance with the  
extracted presence information.

52. A computer readable storage medium according  
to claim 51, wherein the program further comprises a  
step of displaying the distributed data, presence

information and control information.

53. A computer readable storage medium according  
to claim 48 or 51, wherein the presence information is  
5 a data management number.

54. A computer readable storage medium according  
to claim 48 or 51, wherein the presence information is  
a network address.

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55. ~~A computer readable storage medium storing a  
program executing:~~

15 a step, to be executed at a data supplying  
apparatus, of distributing, in response to a data  
distribution request, data and control information for  
restricting various processes to be performed for the  
data at a plurality of levels, to a distribution  
requesting side; and

20 steps, to be executed at a data processing  
apparatus, of issuing a request for a distribution of  
the data to the data supplying apparatus, of processing  
the data, and of regulating the data processing to a  
level represented by the distributed control  
information.

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56. A computer readable storage medium according  
to any one of claims 47, 50 and 55, wherein the data is  
image data.

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Add  
c1

Add  
d1

Add  
f1

Add  
g1